

The President is asking for an open-ended, open-wallet commitment to Iraq; and yet he's told America's children, you're on your own.

I want you to think about this: there have been three vetoes in President Bush's 7 years; one to redeploy from Iraq, one to permit stem cell research, and one to give 10 million children health care; and it says it all about the President and his priorities.

NATIONAL FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the FFA, commonly known as the Future Farmers of America, on the news that for the first time in 29 years, their student membership has passed 500,000 students.

It is encouraging to see groups like the FFA growing and adding new members. Through the FFA, young people in rural and urban areas alike are able to understand agriculture's economic, social and environmental impact on all Americans, as well as agriculture's history.

Agriculture is not so much of a vocation as it is a way of life. Owning and operating a farm or ranch is a labor of love, costing time, money, risk and other investments far above most careers. The FFA prepares the next generation of our Nation's family farmers as they step up on the plate.

Simply put, agriculture matters. I'm proud to represent the Third District of Nebraska, one of the largest agricultural districts in the country, and one which truly embodies the spirit of the FFA.

GLOBAL WARMING

(Mr. HALL of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HALL of New York. Mr. Speaker, this week the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming held two events that starkly presented the consequences of climate change and showed us the way forward to prevent them. Wildlife officials from Alaska showed pictures of polar bears and other species struggling to survive as the ice literally melts under their feet.

The committee heard the gripping testimony of Mayor Stanley Tocktoo, whose village of Shmirsha, Alaska, is literally being wiped away by climate change. He showed footage of severe storms that polar ice once used to defend his village from, hundreds of feet of shore line lost during a single storm, and homes collapsing into the sea.

We need to act to keep Shmirsha, Alaska, from being a harbinger for our communities around the continental United States. The next day, U.N. Spe-

cial Envoys on Climate Change discussed how.

Secretary Ban gathered over 150 countries in the largest discussion ever of climate change, and they testified of the need to change energy policy and bring emissions under control.

We must act by passing the energy bill and taking real action on carbon control. The stakes are too high for soft, nonenforceable goals.

GOP GOVERNORS ABANDON PRESIDENT BUSH ON CHIP

(Mr. SIREs asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIREs. Mr. Speaker, last week President Bush once again threatened to veto a bipartisan agreement that will provide health care insurance to 10 million low-income children. The President should talk to our Nation's Governors, 43 of whom have voiced support for a strengthened CHIP reauthorization.

The Republican Governor of Utah, Jon Huntsman, said, "CHIP is a much needed safety net for uninsured kids, and Congress showed tremendous foresight in authorizing it a decade ago. Uninsured children are the State's number one priority."

The Republican Governor of Wisconsin, Tim Pawlenty, said, "We as Governors also want to make sure that the current population, and hopefully some reasonable expansions, could be covered."

In addition, the Republican Governor of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger said, "We cannot roll back the clock on the program that has helped to ensure children who need it most to have a healthy start in life."

Mr. Speaker, Republican and Democratic Governors alike recognize the importance of this program. I hope the President will listen to these Governors and reconsider his veto threat.

CONDEMNING THE ACCUSATION OF MOVEON.ORG

(Mr. SHAYS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rarely address this Chamber for 1 minute, but I cannot remain silent over the fact that 79 Members of this Chamber refused to condemn the accusation of MoveOn.org that General Petraeus, who has given 3 years of his life in service to our country in Iraq, has betrayed us. He had a message of hope and a recommendation that we not leave Iraq too quickly.

Whether you agree with the general who commands our troops, he, and the troops he commands, deserve to know that all of us in Congress appreciate his service and will not be silent to such outrageous charges. MoveOn.org can say whatever it wants, but freedom of speech does not mean Congress must remain silent.

HONORING JUDGE RICHARD ARNOLD

(Mr. SNYDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SNYDER. Mr. Speaker, people in Arkansas who knew of Judge Richard Arnold admired and respected his great legal mind, his integrity, and his remarkable attributes as a human being. Everyone who personally knew him liked him. Not even those who disagreed with him found fault with his judicial demeanor nor his legal analysis.

Now we have an opportunity to honor this great man. Tomorrow in Little Rock will be the formal dedication of the Richard Sheppard Arnold United States Courthouse, a wonderful new facility. Not only will this building be a great site for justice in central Arkansas, but it will be a lasting tribute to Judge Arnold. And on this day also we honor his wonderful wife, Kay Kelley Arnold, who will be in attendance at tomorrow's dedication.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3567, SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT EXPANSION ACT OF 2007

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 682 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 682

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3567) to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to expand opportunities for investments in small businesses, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Small Business. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions of the bill are waived. Notwithstanding clause 11 of rule XVIII, no amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution. Each such amendment may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. All points of order against such amendments are waived except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The